

February 6, 1976

PRESIDENT: Senator Mills.

SENATOR MILLS: Mr. President, I want to have a lot of attention here, now. Mr. President, I am offering the body this Resolution #119 for a specific group of people who have asked me to do so in seriousness and I want to read a letter from them and tell you why. Then you can do what you want to with it. I am not going to stand up and argue for it or anything like that. I just want to tell you why I introduced it, very, very, serious and very quickly. I am reading a letter from a constituent of mine who, and I would like to have you listen to this. He says, "I am writing this letter on behalf of the members of the Studebaker Drivers Club of Nebraska. What is interest to us in the Club is having the Nebraska Unicameral designate Studebaker as the State Bicentennial car. We feel there are several good reasons for making Studebaker the Bicentennial car in this state. First off, Studebaker was in the transportation business for 114 years. This makes them the longest running transportation builder in the United States. The Studebaker Brothers started by building wagons in 1852 in South Bend, Indiana and many of these wagons were used to bring people westward to settle Nebraska. Through the years, several different models of the Studebaker automobiles have won awards for their design in major car expeditions in both this country and abroad. Studebaker designed into their cars many innovations which other automobile manufacturers did not use until several years after their introduction. It is true that Studebaker no longer builds automobiles but most car collectors don't collect car models, anyway, which are still in production. Even though Studebaker has been out of production for 10 years, there is still better than 1,000 of their cars and trucks licensed and driven in this state. An item which might be of interest to you about the state bicentennial license plate, the little covered wagon in the upper left hand corner of the red and white and blue license plate appears to be the Conestoga wagon built by Studebaker. This is the wagon settlers used. Okay, now I know you understand what it is so we would like to have you support the Studebaker Club of Nebraska. Signed Studebakerly yours." I don't want you to amend this thing. I just want you to accept it or defeat it, one of the two.

PRESIDENT: Senator Rumery.

SENATOR RUMERY: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I want Senator Mills to know that I have a letter from one constituent who has already lent support to this and I have no objections from my entire district.

PRESIDENT: Senator Shirley Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. President and members of the body, I was already to object to this Resolution thinking we should not designate one particular kind since we have many antique collectors and then Senator Mills told me of some of the historical significance, certainly having been in production over an extended period of time